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## In the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- 1. (currently amended) A method of testing the hearing of a user utilizing a computer system, the computer system including a computer and a speaker, the computer operable to output an electrical signal to the speaker, the speaker operable to convert the electrical signal into a stimulus, the computer system having a volume control that controls the amplitude of the electrical signal, the method comprising:
- a) downloading a computer program from a server to the computer, the computer program including instructions which apply a volume control setting in the computer system automatically;
  - b) executing the computer program on the computer;
- c) generating a stimulus <u>under control of the computer program by outputting an</u> electrical signal according to the volume control setting; and
- d) receiving an input from the user that indicates whether or not the user heard the stimulus.
- 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of downloading the computer program includes transferring the computer program from the server to the computer via the Internet.
- 3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of downloading the computer program includes transferring the computer program from the server to the computer via an email.
- 4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source.
- 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a volume control setting that controls the channel balance between electrical signals from a single audio source.

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- 6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a Wave source.
- 7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a stream of digital audio data generated by the computer program.
- 8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a volume control setting that controls the channel balance of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a first volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source and setting applying a second volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes setting applying a first volume control setting that controls the channel balance of electrical signals from a single audio source and setting applying a second volume control setting that controls the channel balance of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 12. (original) The method of claim 1, further including:
  - a) sending first data to the server;
  - b) qualifying the hearing of the user; and
  - c) sending second data to the computer.

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- 13. (currently amended) A method of testing the hearing of a user utilizing a computer system, the computer system including a computer and a speaker, the computer operable to output an electrical signal to the speaker, the speaker operable to convert the electrical signal into a stimulus, the computer system having a volume control that controls the amplitude of the electrical signal, the method comprising:
- a) downloading a computer program from a server to the computer, the computer program including instructions which store a volume control setting of the computer system and apply a predefined volume control setting in the computer system automatically;
- b) executing the computer program on the computer, the execution of the computer program storing a value of the volume control [[and]] setting of the computer system; and applying the predefined [[the]] volume control;
- c) generating a stimulus <u>under control of the computer program by outputting an</u> electrical signal according to the predefined volume control setting;
- d) receiving an input from the user that indicates whether or not the user heard the stimulus; and
- e) resetting the volume control to the stored values volume control setting of the computer system.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of downloading the computer program includes transferring the computer program from the server to the computer via the Internet.
- 15. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of downloading the computer program includes transferring the computer program from the server to the computer via an email.
- 16. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source and setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source.
- 17. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of

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electrical signals from a Wave audio source and setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a Wave audio source.

- 18. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a Wave audio source and setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a stream of digital audio data that was generated within the computer program.
- 19. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources and setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 20. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the act of executing the computer program includes storing the value of a first volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source, storing the value of a second volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources, setting a applying a first predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source, and setting a applying a second predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 21. (original) The method of claim 13, further including:
  - a) sending first data to the server;
  - b) qualifying the hearing of the user; and
  - c) sending second data to the computer.
- 22. (currently amended) A program storage device that contains computer readable instructions that, when executed by a computer system having a volume control, tests the hearing of a user by:
- a) setting the volume control of the computer to a predefined volume control setting overriding a volume control setting of the computer;

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- b) generating a stimulus <u>under control of the computer readable instructions by</u> outputting an electrical signal according to the predefined volume control setting; and
  - c) receiving an input from the user that indicates that the user heard the stimulus.
- 23. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 22, wherein the act of setting the volume control includes setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a Wave audio source.
- 24. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 22, wherein the act of setting the volume control includes setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a stream of digital audio data generated within the computer program.
- 25. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 22, wherein the act of setting the volume control includes setting a applying the predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 26. (original) The program storage device of claim 22, wherein the act of setting the volume control includes setting a applying a first predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source and setting a applying a second predefined volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 27. (currently amended) A program storage device that contains computer readable instructions that, when executed by a computer system having a volume control, tests the hearing of a user by:
  - a) storing the value a volume control setting of the volume control
  - b) setting the volume control to a predefined volume control setting;
- c) generating a stimulus <u>under control of the computer readable instructions by</u> outputting an electrical signal according to the predefined volume control setting;

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- receiving an input from the user that indicates whether or not the user heard the d) stimulus; and
  - resetting the volume control to the stored [[value]] volume control setting. e)
- 28. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 27, wherein the act of storing the value of [[the]] a volume control setting includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source.
- 29. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 27, wherein the act of storing the value of [[the]] a volume control setting includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a Wave audio source.
- 30. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 27, wherein the act of storing the value of [[the]] a volume control setting includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a stream of digital audio data generated within the computer program.
- 31. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 27, wherein the act of storing the value of [[the]] a volume control setting includes storing the value of a volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.
- 32. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 27, wherein the act of storing [[the]] a volume control setting includes storing the value of a first volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a single audio source and storing the value of a second volume control setting that controls the amplitude of electrical signals from a plurality of audio sources.

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